AN

ACCOUNT

OF THE

Vertues, Uſe, Doſe, and wonderful manner of Operation

OF THE

Pilulæ Polychreſtæ.

Which Speedily and Safely extirpate thoſe Opprobria's of Phyſicians, the *Gout*, *Madneſs* and *Melancholy* of all Sorts, *Stone* and *Gravel* in the *Kidneys*, *&c.* herein ſpecified.

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BRITISH MUSEUM

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Pilulæ Polychreſtæ.

AS there ſeems no Neceſſity to indicate to the Reader the Signs and Cauſes of thoſe dangerous Diſeaſes that are moſt certainly and ſafely cured by the *Pilulæ Polychreſtæ*, (for *Non Eloquentiâ ſed remediis curantur morbi*, ſaid *Celſus*, that Privy-Councellor to Nature) ſo we thought it

better to be potent in Fact than only to appear puiſſant in Words, (as do the Generality of our modern Doctors) and to relieve Perſons under exquiſite Pain, than to divert our Reader with Concluſions drawn from Topicks grounded on fundamental Truths or eſſential Verities: Expect not therefore to meet with many profound Philoſophical Hypotheſis's, or that I ſhould prove the abſtruce Principles, or real Grounds of Sympathy, or concupiſcible Attraction and Coition; nor with Mathematical Demonſtrations, which I mention laſt, becauſe I think the leaſt neceſſary in Phyſick.

It is enough, (at leaſt for a time) that we have made known (for univerſal Good) ſuch a *Polichreſtick*, or Sovereign Medicine, as one operating Conſimilar to it can't be produced by any Doctor, Chymiſt, or Apothecary in *Great Britain*: Yea, and ſuch a one as will extirpate thoſe Hydra's of Diſeaſes undermentioned, which have for ſo many Ages bid Defiance to the moſt eminent and ſage Phyſicians. Let not this ſeem a bold and emperical Aſſertion, but ſuſpend your Verdict till you have peruſed the following Account; which before we proceed to give, it will be requiſite to tell you, that the Author has uſed them with admirable yea almoſt incredible Succeſs, above theſe Thirty Three Years, not only in this Metropolis, but in moſt Parts of *Great Britain*; and tho' he ſeldom adminiſtred them to any but ſuch as were (by the ableſt Phyſicians) pronounced incurable, and had languiſhed under their Misfortunes, ſome Three, ſome Seven, ſome Ten and ſome Twenty Years, yet there were none,

tho'

tho' their Caſes were never ſo complicated, or of never ſo long Continuance, but were in the Space of one Month (at moſt) reſtored (by the help of theſe Pills) to a perfect State of Health. And tho' I could nominate above a hundred extraordinary and almoſt incredible Cures performed by them, (to many of which ſome of our eminent Doctors now in being are no Strangers) yet I decline it, and refer the Matter to Experience, which is the only true Examen or *Lydian* Touch-ſtone, to diſtinguiſh Truth from Falſity, and matter of Fact from ſpurious and odible Impoſture.

The Vertues of theſe PILULÆ POLYCHRESTÆ.

Firſt, THEY Cure all *Manias* or Madneſs in either Sex, but ſooner in Men than Women, by reaſon of the *Furor Uterinus*, which is commonly either the primary or ſecondary Cauſe; concerning which Diſeaſe, and the miſtaken Notions both of its Cauſe and Cure, I propoſe at a convenient Time to treat.

2*dly*. Melancholly of all Sorts, whteher Splenetic, Hypocondriac, or Hyſteric, which is commonly called Vapours, tho' of ever ſo long Duration.

3*dly*. Pains in the Head, chiefly Sympathetic, that is, which proceed from ſome Indiſpoſition of the Hypochonders, Spleen, Womb, *&c.*

4*thly*. All wandering Pains, whether Rheumatic, or Scorbutic, in any part of the Body.

5*thly*, Pains in the Stomach, whether from Wind pent up in Viſcid Slime, or from ſome pungent, acid, or acrid Humour, pricking, and vellicating the Veſſels.

6*thly*. The Cholic, from what Cauſe ſoever.

7*thly*. The Stone and Gravel in the Kidneys.

8*thly*. Sup-

8*thly*. Suppreſſion of Urine, either from Stones, Gravel, Sand, Wind, or ſlimy Matter, whence Stones, *&c.* are commonly generated.

9*thly*. Obſtructions in the Liver and Spleen, and *Ductus Biliarius*, or Gall Paſſage.

10*thly*. Heat and Hardneſs of the Liver, which uſually cauſes the Jaundies, both yellow and black, and a ſchirrhus or ſtony Hardneſs of the Liver, generally thought incurable; and indeed if the Patient hath been a hard Drinker and in Years; if likewiſe the Diſtemper has been of long Continuance, it may be concluded ſo; but if none of theſe Three Circumſtances occur, theſe Pills have been found experimentally to reſtore the Liver to its proper Function. They alſo perfectly cure the black and yellow Jaundies.

11*thly*. Dropſies of all Sorts, whether Aſcites, Anaſarcites, or Tympanities, which is a Dropſy of the Womb, or that Diſeaſe which in outward Appearance Symboliſeth with it, the Tumor of the Ovarium, (as ſome Doctors call it) whether from Wind or Water, or both: But as the Tympany of the Womb, always proceeds from Wind, 'tis impoſſible to cure it by Purges; the more you exhibit the worſe they are; neither by Tapping, after which I don't remember one to have lived above 14 Days.

12*thly*. The Gout, provided it be neither Nodoſe nor Cretaceous, that is, if it be accompanied with neither Knots, nor Chalky Concretions in the Joynts: And one Doſe taken Spring and Fall perfectly prevents its returning

under

under any Form or Symptom whatever, in any Part of the Body. What Affinity there is between the Chalky Concretions lodged in the Joynts of Gouty People, and the Stone generated in the Kidneys, ſhall one time or other be farther conſider'd.

13*thly*. The Pleuriſie, and all Pains in the Sides, or in any other Part of the Body, whether wandering or fixed, tho' of the longeſt Continuance, without Bleeding, Cupping, or bliſtering.

14*thly*, The Palſy, whether of any particular Part or Member of the Body, or univerſal all over; whether with a Tremor or trembling, or numb or dead, (as it is called): provided they have been neither Vomited, Purged, nor Clyſtered; much leſs Blooded, Bliſtered, or Cupped. Provided alſo that the Patient be of a Plethoric, or full habit of Body, not Thin, Meagre, or Lean, Old, or Superannuated; or that the Palſy hath not ſupervened ſome preceding Diſtemper, as a Fever, *&c.* then theſe Pills will certainly reſtore the Members to their Priſtine Strength, and the Patient to perfect Health.

15*thly*, All hardneſs with Extenſion or ſwelling of the Peritonæum, and Belly, not only about the Navel, but between that and the Pit of the Stomach, accompany'd with pain and difficulty of bending the Body downwards: Which in Men, hath by many Doctors been taken for a Dropſy, (as they do a Tympany of the Womb) and handled with the like Succeſs.

Several

Several other Caſes I could mention, ſurpaſſing belief, attended with ſuch Symptoms as the Doctors could neither tell what to call, nor how to manage; which perhaps we may take occaſion to inſert in the next Edition of theſe Directions. This only will I add, as a general Rule, that in all Cronic and Complicated Caſes, if the Party hath ſtore of Fluids, theſe Pills are never given without the deſired Succeſs.

I have by by this time ('tis ſuppos'd) a little ſtartled you, by citing ſuch a Scroll or Catalogue of direful Diſeaſes, and the Gout it ſelf, which for many Ages hath withſtood the force of all Medicines that could be oppoſed, by the moſt learned Academicks; I ſay, no doubt but you'll wonder, that they ſhould be eradicated by a Doſe or Two, of one only Medicine; but we boldly and openly bid defiance to all the *Æſculapian* Tribe in *Great Britain*, to produce a Medicine operating like this, the ſubſequent Account of which will probably put the matter out of all Diſpute, and to your entire Satisfaction.

Their manner of Operation, and the Method of ordering the Patient.

A Convenient Room with a Fire in it, being provided, and Two Persons to attend, let the Patient go into a warmed Bed, at Eight a Clock in the Evening (or any other time in case of Necessity) put at the same time a blade or two of Mace and an upper Crust of Bread, into a Pint of Ale, and cover it up close: Which done, give him the Pills in the Pulp of a roasted Apple, (which is the best) or a Wafer moistened with Water or Canary, drinking nothing either with, or after them; then composing himself, he will presently be a Sleep, and continue so Four Hours, and no longer; during which time he will sweat most powerfully, and care must be had neither to wipe the Sweat off his Face, nor do any thing else to disturb him. The Four Hours being expired, and the Patient awake, let two People rub him dry with hot Cloaths, and put on him a clean hot Shirt and Gown; then bring him to the Fire, and let him eat a Morsel of the Bread, and sip some of the Mace Ale made very hot, and well sweetned with single refined Loaf-Sugar; when he hath done this, and drank the remaining part of the Ale, Sweating will immediately cease, which is *è diametro*, or directly contrary to all the Sudorifics or Sweating Medicines now in use.

Presently

Presently after they work plentifully by Urine, (which when cold, in some Cases and Constitutions may be cut with a Knife as Size.) To see the Contents of which, a clean White-Ware Chamber-Pot must be in a readiness, for they cleanse the Kidnies and Ureters of abundance of Stones, Sand, Slime, &c. if any be lodged there: When he has been up betwixt a quarter and half an Hour, let him repair to Bed again, it being turned and well warmed, or another well seasoned put in its place, the Sheets and Blankets likewise being changed, and others well heated put on; then the Pills begin to work strongly, by breaking Wind downwards, to his own and the by-standers great surprize.

The Patient must neither eat nor drink any thing till Dinner, if he can fast so long; if he can't, a Morsel of Bread, and a quarter of a Pint of hot Ale, sweetened with single refined Loaf-Sugar may be taken. Let his Dinner be hot, but neither of baked, fryed, nor frigosy'd Meat, his drink also must be hot, and I forbid Wines of all sort, during the whole course of these Operations, and 24 Hours after they all cease, and it would be better if necessity would permit to forbear Wine for 24 Hours before the Pills are taken.

About two Hours after Dinner they begin to work downwards by Stool, except the Patient has Obstructions in the Liver, Kidneys, Lacteals, &c. or a Tympany of the Womb, or that Distemper which the Doctors call a Tumor of the *Ovarium*; in all which cases, and some

ſome others, the working by Stool is introduced by one large but eaſy Vomit; without any previous Nauſea, or Sickneſs which brings up none of the Meat with it. During the time they Purge, which is without any Sickneſs or Gripes, the Patient muſt by no means ſtop a Motion, or expoſe himſelf to any cold or damp Air, or place; neither (except in Caſes of extream Thirſt, which I never knew to happen) muſt he drink any thing; but if Thirſtineſs urge, a little Tea, made of good Juniper-berries, and ſweetned with ſingle refined Loaf-Sugar, may be drank.

About an Hour and half, or two Hours at moſt, after Supper (which muſt be hot,) the Patient muſt go to a well warmed Bed; and the Pills taken the Night before, will repeat their Operations ſucceſſively as at firſt, but in a much weaker degree: So that ſometimes there is no occaſion either to rub the Party or change his Linnen. In ſome Caſes and Conſtitutions, the firſt Doſe will work 2 or 3 Nights and Days, and the ſecond Doſe 3 or 4, eſpecially in hot Weather, or Summer Time; and then there muſt be an Intermiſſion of 2 or 3 Days before the Third Doſe be taken; but two Doſes commonly perform the Cure, be the Caſe never ſo Chronic and Complicated: In all my 33 Years Practice and upward, I never knew but one Patient that had Occaſion for the Third Doſe; whoſe Caſe and many others very wonderful, ſhall in another Eſſay be fully related.

Indeed

Indeed their manner of Operation is ſo particular and extraordinary, that I almoſt think it hath ſcarce been parallell'd in any Age; for tho' they work moſt powerfully by all the Emunctories, yet they are ſo gentle and agreeable to Nature, that ſhe is not only exceedingly refreſh'd by them afterwards; but even pleaſs'd with the ſeeming Diſturbance they give her. Hence 'tis no wonder that theſe *Pilulæ Polychreſtæ*, ſhould extirpate ſo many dreadful Diſeaſes in ſo ſhort a time.

The DOSE

OF theſe Pills is firſt Four, then Five, laſtly Six, taken as above: But if the Patient labours under any acute and painful Diſeaſe, as the Gout, *&c.* let him begin with Five, increaſing one the next Doſe. After the Cure of any Chronic Diſtemper, 'tis requiſite to take one Doſe every Spring and Fall, which muſt be as large as the laſt Doſe that was taken before, and this will be ſufficient to carry off whatever peccant Matter may be collected ſince the laſt Time of taking.

Theſe Pills are ſealed up in little Thumb Bottles, by which means their Vertues will be preſerved Twenty Years in all Regions; but obſerve that in all hot Climates, the Doſe muſt be leſs than in *England* or a colder Climate.

Sold only at Mr. *Winſtone*'s at the *Black Boy* and *Comb*, near *Fleet Bridge* in *Fleet-ſtreet*, at One Guinea *per* Bottle, containing Three Doſes, two of which is commonly ſufficient to cure any of the aboveſaid Diſeales.

Where this Book is gave away gratis, to any one that will ask for it.

For the Encouragement of the Buyers, and that they may not in the leaſt ſuſpect being impos'd upon, any Perſons agreeing to the Pro-

Propoſals made at the Place of Sale, may be attended, and no Money received till the Cure be perfected.

N. B. No Woman with Child muſt take theſe Pills, nor any one that hath an *Eryſipelas*, (which is the St *Anthony*'s Fire) *Elephantiaſis*, or *Noli me Tangere*.

Above all things great Care muſt be taken, that no ſort of Liquor be drank, either preſently before, with, or after theſe Pills; even not ſo much as one Drop to moiſten the Mouth or waſh them down, otherwiſe they will be of no Effect.

Secondly, Obſerve that while the Patient ſweats, no more Cloaths be put upon him than uſual.

Laſtly, All the Directions given in this Paper, are to be exactly and punctually obſerved, if you intend to receive Benefit by them, or elſe you muſt blame your ſelf and not me.

FINIS.

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